

NEBRASKA SUPREME COURT



Office of Public Information

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www.supremecourt.ne.gov

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Court Costs to Increase

LINCOLN – Court costs for all cases filed in Nebraska Courts will go up \$1 on July 1, 2009. Additional increases of \$3 for criminal and traffic cases and \$2 on other types of cases go into effect on August 30, 2009.

The increases are the result of legislation passed by the Nebraska legislature during the session which adjourned May 29, 2009.

The July 1 increase will supplement the state's judges' retirement fund. Judges, and others covered by the plan, will also be required to increase their contributions.

The August 30 increases include \$2 for court automation for all types of cases and \$1 for the Law Enforcement Improvement Fund (LEIF) applies only to criminal and traffic.

Examples of the increases include: county court fees for traffic tickets or criminal complaints will increase from \$44 to \$45 on July 1 and to \$48 on August 30. Small claims will increase from \$23 to \$24 on July 1 and to \$26 on August 30. (LEIF is not charged to civil cases.)

District Court costs for divorce will increase from \$154 to \$155 July 1 and to \$157 August 30. The increases will also affect appellate court and juvenile court costs.

The court costs are determined by the date the case is filed with the court.

In spite of the increases, court costs in Nebraska remain low compared to the costs charged in other states. While court costs for a felony case in district court will go up to \$70, in Colorado, that same filing has a \$163 filing fee and in Missouri the filing fee is \$329.

Fees for a misdemeanor traffic case which will cost \$48 when the new Nebraska fees go into effect August 30; the same would cost \$116.50 in Missouri.

Filing a small claims case in Nebraska is going up to \$26 on August 30, compared to \$85 in Iowa courts.

(Continued...)

For a complete list of court costs, go to the Nebraska Supreme Court Web site:

<http://supremecourt.ne.gov/community/fees.shtml>

For a complete list of court-related legislation, go to the Bill listing which accompanies Administrative Memorandum 09-5 on Nebraska Supreme Court Web site:

<http://www.supremecourt.ne.gov/community/adminmemos/index.shtml>

Contact Sheryl Connolly, Trial Court Services Director, for more information at 402-471-2671 or sheryl.connolly@nebraska.gov.

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